

62470

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Assistant Director for Research and Reports

Date: 19 February 1952

From: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

Subject: ORR Use of Hungarian Railroad Specialist

1. [REDACTED] is currently exploiting a former Hungarian railroad tariff specialist, whom they consider to be a very valuable source on the Hungarian railroad system. Following his debriefing, Army resettlement plans call for his [REDACTED] analysts feel that he could be of considerable value to U. S. intelligence if employed in a consultative capacity, but that his [REDACTED] might prevent any further use of him for intelligence purposes.

25X1X6

2. [REDACTED] has recently completed a map of the entire Hungarian railroad system. He has also provided specific information on more than 300 railroad lines including the old and new numbers, significance, bottlenecks, and new construction projects. (This report is now in preparation). Although he left the employ of the Hungarian Government [REDACTED] 1949 and defected to the West, he has subsequently kept abreast of new railway developments in Hungary.

3. Although [REDACTED] is giving him a thorough debriefing, they are concentrating almost exclusively on the physical aspects of the railroad lines. I feel that a man of his experience should probably have additional information of interest to ORR on various economic aspects of Hungarian railway traffic. Certainly there will be portions of his report that will require further clarification and interpretation after it has been analyzed in Washington.

4. In Appendix A of the NIE-33 study on Hungary is the statement that "Reliable information is lacking on all aspects of Hungarian railroad transportation". It would seem, therefore, that [REDACTED] might be able to use the services of this source in a consultative capacity in much the same way that the [REDACTED] are being utilized.

5. I have discussed the matter of [REDACTED] immigration to the U. S. with the official at [REDACTED] in charge of resettlement. He told me that if ORR wished to use [REDACTED] services and would request his immigration, that [REDACTED] would try to arrange it under the special CIA immigration quota. This would be done in consultation with the Army authorities who are now working on his resettlement. [REDACTED] past membership in the Communist Party might, however, impose considerable difficulty in the way of his immigration to the U. S.

6. Detailed biographical data on [REDACTED] is enclosed with this memorandum. If after studying this data, you feel that ORR needs this source for further exploitation or consultation, I suggest that you request [REDACTED] to initiate the necessary action. The matter should be handled expeditiously inasmuch as his resettlement in the U. S. Army may be an accomplished fact within a short time.

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A6a 7. As an interim arrangement I could probably manage to hire him for a period of several months and put him to work answering specific ORR requirements or preparing an unclassified research project on Hungarian railway transportation. For this purpose it would be necessary for you to authorize [REDACTED] to disburse the necessary funds; I should think that \$200 a month would be the maximum required.

8. Until I hear from you further, I will keep in touch with [REDACTED] analysts to insure 25X1A6a that [REDACTED] exploitation covers the subjects in which ORR is interested.

25X1X6

25X1X6

25X1A9a

Enclosure (A): Biographic Data on [REDACTED]

25X1A6a

cc: Chief, [REDACTED]

SECRET